

PORK DOOMED

It Is Regarded Certain That Bills Will Never Reach President.

LATTER NOW AROUSED

Senator Borah and Other Progressives Banded to Prevent Passage of Measures.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The "pork" bills are doomed to defeat. It is almost certain now that they will never reach the President. The latter has become aroused himself about the insatiable appetites of some of the Southern Congressmen and has made up his mind to veto at least some of them should they come before him, but this is not likely to happen.

Revelations concerning the "pork" bills framed by committees controlled by Southern Democrats has stirred up certain Progressive Senators to take action that practically assures the defeat in the Senate of the two principal bills, the omnibus public buildings bill, which distributes \$40,000,000 post offices plentifully among Southern crossroads, and the river and harbor bill, in which the Southern statesmen have shown the same consideration for creeks and bayous with a consideration of flood relief.

The third of the "pork" measures, the \$45,000,000 flood reclamation project designed to boost real estate along the Mississippi, has had little or no chance since its purely selfish and local character was pointed out in THE SUN.

Anti-Pork Leaders.

The Senators who have agreed to resist the passage of the "pork" bills are the familiar groups of Progressives led by Senators Borah, Kenyon and Norris. They have taken a pledge to avail themselves of all the privileges under the rule of unlimited debate and to employ every legitimate means under Senate procedure to destroy the "pork barrel" at this session.

They will have the support of others and probably will receive some strength from the Democratic side. The doors are open for any other Senator who believes the time has come to call a halt on the "pork" raid and lend his efforts to break the barrel.

Since THE SUN first called attention to the combined "pork" raid, which was planned on the Federal Treasury under the direction of the Southern members controlling the committees there have been several conferences among the "pork" Senators, with the result that they are now banded together in a carefully laid plan that insures the defeat of the "pork" bills.

These Senators had planned to make their pledge known in a formal statement, but the pressure of other business prevented this. Such a statement, giving their reasons for opposing these measures, will probably be issued shortly. Senator Kenyon has already issued a record of his opposition to the "pork barrel" river and harbor appropriations.

His name is identified with the fight against the "pork" crowd, and with the famous battles of Senator Burton of Ohio against the useless "pork" extravaganzas. Senator Kenyon went out of the Senate Senator Kenyon assumed the leadership of the fight in which he had always been enlisted and led on an offensive.

Senator Borah has always opposed this form of legislative extravagance, as has Senator Norris. Other Senators opposing the "pork" bills are found giving their support to the movement.

Strong Enough to Win.

With the brief time of the session remaining there is no doubt of the ability of the Senators to prevent the passage of the bills. The number of those interested is large enough to insure a good working organization. A group numerous enough to prevent the abandonment of the "pork" programme in the previous session.

The action taken by the Progressive group has not become generally known to their associates. When it does it will probably have a discouraging effect on members interested in passing the bills for appropriations for buildings and river and harbor improvements. It may mean that the two bills will be put away in monthlies and not brought out again this session.

A Democratic revolt has already started in the Administration circle against the "pork" programme following the exposure of the "pork" bills and the President is reported to have taken a hand. He has not yet been able to call off the legislation end.

In the Senate and House certain Senators and members interested in keeping down extravagance as much as possible have been giving serious thought to the subject of the "pork" bills. The number of the Progressive and may have sufficient influence with the "pork" propagandists to persuade them to curb their appetites for this session.

Evidently anticipating the trouble and to avoid the possibility of a filibuster during the closing days of the expiring session the House committee is displaying unusual haste in framing the river and harbor bill. Several new projects were considered by the committee to-day and short shifts were made of the projects of members who have voted against "pork" in the past. It is expected by Chairman Sparkman that he will be able to report the completed measure early next week.

Unfavorable to Pork.

The House committee is obviously determined not to risk having the present bill talked to death. The short and final session of Congress is now unfavorable to "pork." During the McKinley administration Senator Carter, Montana, put an end to a \$50,000,000 bill by occupying the time of the subject of the bill sixteen hours of the session. The Burton and Kenyon filibuster against the river and harbor bill two years ago is still fresh in the minds of the pork advocates.

The course of the pending bill from the time it is reported will not be smooth. It will be met by a broadside of criticism in the House. The "pork" antagonists are preparing for a lively fight as they are in the Senate.

The same fate will overtake the public buildings bill which for the moment is being held in abeyance. The public has forgotten some of the more glaring pork features to which attention has been called.

E.H. SOTHERN HERE, ILL, QUILTS STAGE FOR GOOD

Actor Arrives From Chicago in Better Condition Than Friends Expected.

Friends Expected.

The stage career of E. H. Sothern is definitely at an end, according to a statement made by Dr. Joseph B. Bissell of 46 West Fifty-fifth street, who arrived in New York with Mr. Sothern last night from Chicago. The famous actor is suffering from gallstones, and his condition is such that Dr. Bissell positively ordered Mr. Sothern to retire. The actor protested, but finally gave in when his wife, Julia Marlowe, emphatically backed up the physician's demand.

Reports from Chicago, where Mr. Sothern recently became ill, led his friends here to believe he was being hurried out of the station on his arrival. But last night he was able to walk through the baggage room to a waiting automobile.

For the time being Mr. Sothern will "rest up" at the home of friends. Dr. Bissell said it would not be necessary to operate, at least not for the present.

"I want him to get himself in good condition," said the physician, "so that if we do have to operate we will have a patient in robust general health."

"I have told Mr. Sothern he must quit the stage for good, and I mean it. Aided by Mr. Sothern's wife, I will go his promise to do so. He feels deeply disappointed, but his health must come before everything. He regrets very much that his company, which is now playing 'If I Were King' in Chicago, will have to be disbanded."

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PARK GIFT LINK TO PALISADES

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Plans Ferry to Connect Two Resorts.

BIG ESTATES ACQUIRED

Many Millions to Be Used on Billings, Hays and Shearer Properties.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s purchase of the Billings, Hays and Shearer estates in the Fort Washington section of Manhattan means more than a park for the use of New York city dwellers. It means bringing over from New Jersey the entrance to the great Interstate Park which extends along the Palisades up to West Point. The estates are to be connected with various parts of the park by large ferries, which will be operated by the city or by Mr. Rockefeller. He will spend many millions in the development of the fifty-seven acres on Fort Washington Heights purchased from C. K. G. Billings and the Hays and Shearer families.

Cabot Ward, Commissioner of Parks for Manhattan and Richmond, has been told of the plans of Mr. Rockefeller, and together they have spent much time in working out a general treatment of the big area. It was said that upward of \$10,000,000 will be spent by Mr. Rockefeller in the development of the property. This is the amount he has laid aside for the purpose, it was said, but it does not mean that it will be all he is willing to put into the park, which has evolved into one of his leading public interests.

How Idea Originated.

Discussion of the inaccessibility of the Interstate Park to New York city by a group of several young men, including the hearing of Mr. Rockefeller about a year ago as he was travelling in a train to Tarrytown is said to have led to the purchase of the Billings, Hays and Shearer properties. The idea of bringing to New York city the entrance to this park. Publicity which followed Mr. Billings' death, the removal of the wrapping paper from the box on Fifth avenue, and the announcement that Tryon Hall, his \$2,000,000 property on Fort Washington Heights, would be sold gave Mr. Rockefeller the opportunity to carry out the plan he had in mind.

Certain of the Billings property, since he had information that Mr. Billings' would die, he had been looking for a way, Mr. Rockefeller took up the purchase of the Shearer and Hays properties in secret negotiations, for he did not want the public to know that he was buying the property. The northern of the three, was the first to be purchased. Then the Hays property, between the Billings and the Shearer properties, was acquired. To complete his deal Mr. Rockefeller then took up the purchase of the Billings property. This was only a few days ago.

Mr. Billings knew of Mr. Rockefeller's plans and the story is that he considers the transaction between himself and Mr. Rockefeller in the light of a philanthropic deed. There was no hickering about the price or the like. Mr. Billings sold his estate to promote Mr. Rockefeller's plans.

Area May Be Extended.

Mr. Rockefeller's reluctance to discuss or even admit that he had purchased the property is taken to mean that he plans to extend to a great area the park which he has purchased. The area, which is now about 500 acres, is in the heart of the proposed park.

It is the intention of Mr. Rockefeller, it is said, to connect the park with the Hudson River for miles up and down the river, over Long Island Sound and away across the Sound to the north of the Hudson. It is the most important project of the park, and it is the one which Mr. Rockefeller is most anxious to see carried out.

House Designed by Lovell.

He began to accumulate the estate a number of years ago. First he built a stable for his great trotting horses. Then he erected a lodge. The beauty of the spot grew on Mr. Billings until he decided to develop the property into a formal residence. He bought adjoining property to the west of the stable, and the site of the famous old Fort Tryon, a remnant of the Revolutionary war. Guy Lowell designed the house in the French style, with a big turret at the corner. Part of the house is a great swimming pool and numerous stables, where were kept until three years ago the best trotting horses in the world.

It was said yesterday, to preserve Tryon Hall and the big swimming pool, but for what purpose was not made clear. He also plans to build the Abbey Court on the Hays property, just to the north of Tryon Hall. The castle is now a hotel known as the Abbey Inn. It was built by the Hudson River Hotel Co. and the Hays family, which has owned the property for more than twenty-five years. There are 250 lots in the Hays estate. On it the famous Abbey Hotel, which was destroyed by fire last year, and which automobiles are tested to show their hill climbing power.

Just north of the Hays lots is the Shearer property, an estate of 228 lots, which was purchased by Mr. Rockefeller five years ago while State Geologist of Pennsylvania. The three properties comprise about fifty-seven acres, reaching from Broadway to the Hudson, and from 152d street north to the drive, which turns to meet Broadway at Dyckman street.

Yacht Landing Also Acquired.

Besides these lots the Billings yacht landing near Dyckman street, a big tract of land, has been acquired by Mr. Rockefeller, from which he will operate the ferries to the various parts of the Interstate Park. There will be a number of

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SWANN JAILS A GRAFT WITNESS

Breckinridge's Chief Reliance Goes to Tombs for John Doe Hearing.

ADMITS HE PAID MONEY

"Notorious Collector," Says District Attorney, but Innocence Is Asserted.

The nature of the charges which District Attorney Swann is trying to make against his former assistant, Lucian S. Breckinridge, became somewhat less vague last night when Albert L. Wilson, described by Mr. Swann as a "notorious graft collector," was locked up in the Tombs as a material witness needed to testify before the Grand Jury on Thursday in the case of Jacobs vs. John Doe.

Wilson is the man pictured by Mr. Swann last week as having paid money to Mr. Breckinridge for manufacturers' associations at the time when Mr. Breckinridge, as a special assistant to the District Attorney, was prosecuting a score of men indicted for violence in strikes of garment workers. Jacobs is Henry L. Jacobs, a member of the Division Street Retailers' Association. John Doe's name will be changed to Lucian S. Breckinridge in the official papers if the Grand Jury indicts Friend John.

Admits Paying Money.

The funny part of it is that Wilson is also claimed as the chief witness for Mr. Breckinridge. The latter's counsel, Marshall W. Littleton, gave the newspaper last night the gist of the story that Wilson had told him and which Mr. Breckinridge corroborates. He admits that he paid money to Mr. Breckinridge—between \$400 and \$500—but if his narrative is true it makes the transaction entirely innocent. He says he formerly worked for latter leaders, the four men who were indicted for violence in the strike, and that he "got in bad" with both groups through the help he gave Mr. Breckinridge in the labor prosecution.

Out of a job, he decided to open a small clothing store of his own. He went to Mr. Breckinridge for assistance and suggested that the latter take the \$400 or \$500 that Wilson had saved, deposit it in his own bank and draw checks for Wilson, as the storekeeper needed to meet bills in his business. This, according to the story, was done, and Breckinridge says he has the records showing the payments to Wilson.

Wilson's counsel, J. Ward Follette, says he was told by the Grand Jury, told Mr. Breckinridge about it and took him to Mr. Littleton. Then the District Attorney got hold of Wilson and questioned him on Friday evening and all day yesterday, while Mr. Follette, who is himself a former Assistant District Attorney, sat outside the District Attorney's office complaining that his client was kept away from him.

Taken Before a Judge.

After 6 o'clock last evening, however, extraordinary procedure was started. Assistant District Attorney Follette, accompanied by Mr. Swann, took Wilson before General Sessions Judge Mulqueen and requested that Wilson be held for the Grand Jury as a material witness, which capacity Wilson had been subpoenaed.

Mr. Elder made an affidavit, which was in effect a confession, that "Al L. Wilson is a material witness in this case on behalf of the people herein, in that he received and paid money to the defendant, John Doe, for the purpose of influencing his (defendant's) actions as a public officer."

Mr. Elder further swore that he believed that unless Wilson was held for the court he would not appear to testify before the Grand Jury. He said Wilson had told him he had just returned from Breckinridge, where he had been looking for work, and intended leaving for Detroit to seek a job with the Ford Motor Company.

Wilson also said, according to Elder, "that a certain offer was made to him on Friday last to depart from the State of New York."

"Notorious Graft Collector."

To reporters Wilson denied that he had told Elder anything of the kind, but he would not deny that he had paid money to Breckinridge. In court Mr. Follette said he personally had seen the Police Commissioner Scull on Friday when Wilson could be found—at his home, 208 West 140th street—and that if Wilson had wanted to go to the city he had ample opportunity to do so.

"My client Wilson," Follette said to Judge Mulqueen, "has been referred to as a notorious graft collector."

"Merely a notorious graft collector," not East Side," put in District Attorney Swann.

Mr. Swann asked that Wilson be held in \$1000 bail. Judge Mulqueen said he would have suggested \$10,000, but he granted the District Attorney's request and suggested that Wilson be locked up at Police Headquarters.

Habes Corpus to Be Sought.

"Police Headquarters is the last place he should be sent," protested Mr. Swann. "The influence there. He did not finish the story. Wilson was sent to the Tombs, where he will have a private bedroom and sitting room and will receive \$3 a day while locked up. It was said that he had been looking for work, and intended leaving for Detroit to seek a job with the Ford Motor Company."

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